

Unreserved business minutes of Annual Meeting of the **Governing Body** on 26 June 2024

**Present:**

<b>Ex officio</b>	Master
<b>Fellows</b>	Professor Armstrong (Vice-Master), Ms Baskerville (Zoom), Mr Beber (Senior Tutor), Professor Biagini, Dr Carter (Zoom), Dr Dandeleat, Dr Doran, Dr Eaton, Professor Flewitt, Dr Flynn, Dr Fulda, Dr Ganany, Professor Garcia-Mayoral, The Rev'd Dr Gray, Dr Groom, Professor Gurnell (Zoom), Mr Ireland, Professor Noriega-Sánchez, Mr Pierce (Bursar), Professor Pollitt, Dr Ranasinghe, Dr Roddie (Zoom), Dr Schneider, Dr Skinner, Dr Sumnall, Dr Theil, Dr Wilson-Lee
<b>Student members</b>	Ms Chen (MCR President)
<b>In attendance</b>	College Registrar (Secretary)

**Introductory business**

**401 Apologies for absence**

Professor Bill, Dr Cheke, Professor Eiser, Dr Groisman, Dr Lambert, Dr Millington-Burgess, Professor Neely, Dr Öner, Professor Stasch, Dr O Weller and Professor Zernicka-Goetz were on leave. Apologies were received from Dr Bates, Dr Bordin, Professor Eilstrup-Sangiovanni, Dr Galanakis, Ms Hygate (Student Representative), Mr Nicholas (JCR President), Professor Penty, Professor Ramage and Ms Woods (JCR Vice-President).

**402 Approval of agenda**

The agenda was **approved**, subject to moving Item 413 (SSBC Senior Treasurer's Report and updated Constitution) above the line.

**403 Declaration of interests**

None.

**404 Unreserved business minutes of 22 May 2024**

Confirmed by circulation.

(AGB.2324/404)

**405 Matters arising not elsewhere on the agenda**

None.

(AGB.2324/405)

### Decision items

**406 Celebration of Achievements 2023/24 (Master) (AGB.2324/406)**

The Governing Body recognised with a round of applause the achievements of the past academic year.

**407 Amendments to Ordinance B,X (Sabbatical Leave) (Registrar) (AGB.2324/407)**

The amendments, reflecting the decision of Governing Body on 21 February 2024 to allow Council to grant permission on an exceptional basis for the Master or a Fellow on sabbatical leave to undertake or continue certain work on behalf of the College, if he or she so requests, were further discussed. Governing Body considered issues not previously discussed, including the potential conflict between University Statute, which explicitly prohibited certain College work, and the amended College Ordinance; it further noted the potential inequity between UTOs and CTOs if Fellows were subject to different regimes. A suggestion was made to include specific reference to the University Statute in the College Ordinance.

Governing Body **agreed** to direct the Statutes & Ordinances Committee to review further the Ordinance in light of the issues discussed, and to propose options for further consideration.

**Action: Statutes & Ordinances Committee**

**408 Establishment of Appointment Recommendations Committee (Registrar) (AGB.2324/408)**

The Governing Body **agreed** to:

- (a) thank the members of the Fellowship Re-election Committee, Honorary Fellowship Committee and Nomination Committee for their services to the College, and to disband the three bodies with effect from 31 August 2024;
- (b) establish the Appointment Recommendation Committee with effect from 1 September 2024; and
- (c) delegate to the Nominations Committee, in consultation with the Master, authority to make appointments to this body by circulation during the Long Vacation and to report the appointments to the Governing Body at its 6 November 2024 meeting.

**Action: Nominations Committee**

**409 Remuneration and Benefits Committee Terms of Reference (Bursar) (AGB.2324/409)**

The updated Terms of Reference were **approved**.

### Information items

**410 Inter-collegiate business and other relevant issues (Master / Senior Tutor / Bursar)**

#### Heads of House

The Heads of House had discussed the forthcoming Freedom of Speech regulations, which, for this College, had been approved by the Council. Alternative arrangements for General Admission in the event of disruption had also been discussed.

### **Admissions Forum**

The Admissions Forum had been discussing admissions assessments, and the impact of changing entrance requirements midway through A Levels.

#### **411 College Budget 2024/25 (Bursar) (AGB.2324/411)**

The Bursar presented an update to the draft budget presented on 22 May 2024, drawing attention to:

- the new format for presenting budgets, forecasts and management accounts included major works within operating expenditure, which had no impact on the bottom line but reflected that major works were a fundamental part of the College's operating expenditure;
- a number of expenditure budget items which had been in progress in May 2024 were now included, resulting in a £143k adverse movement relative to version 1 presented in May;
- following a review of the major works budget, £370k out of the budget of £980K had been capitalised; and
- Finance & Needs Committee had agreed to increase the donations budget to £1.1m, up from £750k.

The operating income and expenditure, and capital expenditure budgets for 2024/25, which had been approved by the Council, were **noted** and **endorsed**. Governing Body **endorsed** the new format for future reporting.

#### **412 College Plan 2024/25 (Registrar) (AGB.2324/412)**

The plan, which had been approved by the Council, was **noted**.

#### **413 Sidney Sussex Boat Club Senior Treasurer's Report and updated Constitution (Master) (AGB.2324/413)**

The report and Constitution were **received**, and Governing Body drew attention to contradictory clauses that all elections would be held by secret ballot, and also that Boat Club members could submit ballots via online form or by emailing the Returning Officer. The Governing Body asked that the Boat Club review this anomaly and update its Constitution accordingly.

**Action: Boat Club Senior Treasurer**

---

### **Reports from committees**

#### **414 College Council 22 May 2024 (unconfirmed) (AGB.2324/414)**

The minutes were **received**.

## **Other business**

### **415 Any other business**

The Governing Body expressed its gratitude with a round of applause to those long-serving members of College for their service in various roles over the years, as they were standing down:

- Professor Chris Hill, Fellow Secretary, Honorary Fellowships Committee
- Mr Dick Humphreys, Fellow Commoner, Curator of Pictures
- Professor Bill Jones, Wine Steward
- Professor Rosamond McKitterick, Keeper of Manuscripts and Archives
- Dr Colin Roberts, Fellow Secretary, Research Fellowships Competition

The Governing Body also extended its best wishes to Professor Kenneth Armstrong on his retirement and expressed its gratitude to him on behalf of the College for his service.

Governing Body members were encouraged to participate in the forthcoming ballot on the University's Employer-Justified Retirement Age.

Governing Body concluded the meeting with a round of applause for the Master at the end of the first year of his Mastership.

### **416 Dates of next year's meetings**

Wednesday 6 November 2024, 4pm (Audit Meeting)

Wednesday 26 February 2025, 4pm

Wednesday 28 May 2025, 4pm

Wednesday 25 June 2025, **2pm** (Annual Meeting)